Subject: Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools Program Update #12

Date: November 5, 2021

From: EANS Email Account (Laura Pinsonneault)

Greetings Wisconsin EANS Program Participants and Interested Parties,

We are pleased to announce that Wisconsin's state application for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) EANS Program has been approved by the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of this email is to provide some key updates regarding ARP EANS program eligibility and the application process for ARP EANS.

## **Program Eligibility for ARP EANS**

As a reminder (and you can read more about this in <u>Program Update #10</u>), eligibility for ARP EANS is built around two primary criteria: 1) the impact of COVID-19 on the school; and 2) enrolling a significant proportion of students from low-income families. States were required to propose thresholds for these eligibility criteria in our ARP EANS applications. Wisconsin's proposal was as follows:

- 1. All schools currently in the CRRSA (round 1) EANS program have demonstrated an impact of COVID-19 on their school and thus satisfied the criteria for having been significantly impacted by COVID-19. Schools not currently in CRRSA EANS will have an opportunity to demonstrate, through their school's ARP EANS application, how COVID-19 has significantly impacted their school.
- 2. Based upon median enrollments in private schools currently in CRRSA EANS, Wisconsin originally proposed a 20% low-income enrollment as a significant threshold for ARP EANS. The U.S. Department of Education requested a shift to a 21.9% low-income threshold and we adjusted our application accordingly. This was the only change to Wisconsin's application.
- 3. Additionally, we asserted in our application that schools with low-income enrollments below 21.9% have also demonstrated a significant need by filing a claim for services and supports through the CRRSA EANS program. As such, CRRSA EANS schools with a low-income enrollment below 21.9% that submitted at least one claim to CESA 6 on or before September 30th, 2021, are also eligible. Schools that are not in CRRSA EANS must satisfy the low-income enrollment threshold of at least 21.9% in order to qualify for ARP EANS.

## **Applying for ARP EANS**

There will be two application "lanes" for ARP EANS.

- 1. <u>Eligible schools</u> currently in CRRSA EANS will receive an ARP EANS application link from DPI. We anticipate sending this link on November 15th. We ask that you complete the application even if you do not intend to participate; this is an opt in *and* opt out request.
- 2. Schools not in CRRSA EANS that want to apply for ARP EANS have to request an application from DPI. This is because applications are pre-populated and we need to confirm we have the correct email address for application distribution.

If you are not currently in the EANS program and want to apply for ARP EANS, please <u>click here</u> and provide the requested information. You must request an application no later than Wednesday, November 17.

All ARP EANS applications will be due no later than December 3, 2021. This will allow DPI and CESA 6 sufficient time to review applications and let schools know if they have been accepted into the program or not. These acceptance and denial letters will be sent no later than December 15th, 2021. We anticipate releasing ARP EANS allocations the first week of January 2022, and that funds will be available to schools starting January 10, 2022.

If you are interested in applying for ARP EANS, and you are not currently in the CRRSA EANS program, we suggest that you take some time to review some of the great resources available on the CESA 6 (Wisconsin's EANS program administrator) website.

- Program webinar recordings are on this <u>Events & Learning page</u>. The webinars dated April 6 and May 11 may serve as a helpful introduction.
- Remember that no reimbursements are allowed in the ARP program, so you do not need to attend to those details.
- You can learn more about allowable expenses on <u>this page</u> (paying attention to the direct service column in the table).

As always, if you have any questions about ARP EANS, please email <u>EANS@dpi.wi.gov</u> and someone from DPI will respond. All other program questions should go to <u>EANS@CESA6.org</u>.

Regards, EANS Program Staff at DPI